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TIMES-VIRGINIAN

APPOMATTOX, VIRGINIA

A LIVELY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER AT HISTORIC APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE, VIRGINIA

VOLUME 82 NUMBER 37 APPOMATTOX (VA.) - 24522 - TIMES - VIRGINIAN - SEPTEMBER 12, 1974 SINGLE COPY PRICE 15c

Seminole Football Should Be Competitive This Year

Seminole District, 11 ing for the 1974-75 ould very well be two divisions. I would include the ek, Brookville, Am- erty, Rustburg and a Division II includ- ennie, Williams Harrisonburg, Gretna, ner, Altavista and ennet.

ld Brookville both returning lettermen grid drills than Campbell, Staunton Altavista had total. ven coaches think the d be better balanced ink that it has in past thinking is based on Amherst is in the ld will challenge for the district title. ese teams from the division" having little successful season.

ers and the Dedes then over 50 players games, Nelson and ld dress over 40 and ld be somewhere in with 45 to 50 players

on the other hand pressed to get 20 uniform while Jeffer- , Appomattox, and ld have around 30 Milton Campbell and ver should range

aking about players ne physically deve- d players who have to compete week on the grid iron. pproximately 20 ssed for Altavista, e 15 ball players. ut 25 good football- omattox and you 40 or more at the

hese observations empt to predict the d the 1974 season. st Amherst County to e marbles in the district. The Lancers pated is Group AAA e four years, and Brookville is equal to ve the talent depart- where of the Lancers' ould make up the e as they want to the district with an reversed.

st should finish the season with a 9-1 ning either to Nelson or Rustburg. Both ve the potential Amherst, but the ll not get caught d downs this season. ale is a solid second The Bees have talent, experience and are ached as any team in The sheer desire of will pay off in a show ween the two teams, ales will be upset by me in the season

ation is a solid con- e third place. The ve an experienced ll unit returning and ey Robinson seems to defensive unit work-

d, Nelson and Rust- ll produce victories ponents, but a 7-3 ould be good enough place as the Raiders ually good year. son has worked hard ear's squad. The ghtly spirited, and will odds as they surprise of the more highly ponents.

place could go to Rustburg or Nelson The two teams battled the last season, and he season in a tie for ne in the district. We ags to Rustburg of the wealth of ent the Red Devils ning and the hard to multiple offense em- coach Ray Wade.

County has a new Jesse Brown, and as is case when a coach new styles and n a team it takes time assisted.

has excellent credent- played for Jim Root ia and Mary and as an assistant at gh School last Lafayette was the champion in the Region having gone ball during the regular season.

With experience and depth returning, the Governors will breeze through most of their season, but they still have to contend with Amherst, Brookville, Rustburg and Appomattox.

Nelson should hang on for a fifth place finish, and perhaps could tie Rustburg for fourth place.

Liberty, the pride of Bedford County, could finish higher than the sixth place we have them picked for. It is doubtful that the Minutemen will improve much on last year's record and more than likely they will actually drop a notch in the standings because of the better balance at the top of the district.

Cecil Radcliff has done an excellent job with the Minutemen as he begins his second year at the helm, but there is just to much against Liberty pulling any major surprises this season.

Positions seven through 11 will probably be a scramble as Gretna, Jefferson Forest, Staunton River, Altavista and William Campbell should all show some improvement over last season.

Slick Andrews, head coach at Gretna, is not used to finishing low in the standings and will have his Hawks fired up to wrest a higher berth from those teams picked in the top division.

Bill Mabitt, in his second year at the helm of the Staunton River Eagles is looking for improvement over last year's final standing and Mike Head of Altavista would like to see his Colonels make a strong showing.

Glen Styles at Jefferson Forest is probably in the best position of any to improve his record. The former Rustburg mentor finally has a veteran team and Styles has the ability to get everything from his division rating.

Ronnie Cox, returning to William Campbell after an absence of several years, will have the Generals on the right track in a rebuilding year.

"Cox has his task cut out for him as the Generals have posted the worst record of any Seminole District team, in all sports, over the past three years. The new mentor is a winner, as evidenced by his previous record, but it will take time to change the apathetic attitude which has been prevalent at the Naruna school the past three years.

This year, 1974, could produce some of the best football the Seminole District has ever seen. Certainly it will be one of the most competitive years.

No matter which division a team is competing in.

Improved Raiders Shoot For District Grid Title

Appomattox County, showing improvement over the past two years will be shooting for the Seminole District football title when the season opens Sept. 6.

After a mediocre 5-5 record last season, the Raiders are showing new enthusiasm and optimism under head coach Jerry Robinson who is beginning his fifth season at the helm of Appomattox County.

"We feel that we are a much improved team over this time last year," says Robinson, "We can attribute part of it to the fact that we have been able to hold workouts twice a day and part of it the fact that we have an experienced line and some young players who really want to play football."

The district title could very well hinge on the last game of the season when Appomattox entertains defending champion, and state Group AA runner-up Brookville.

Along the line the Raiders will have tri-captains Mike Quinn at guard, Warren Coleman at offensive tackle and Ricky Wingfield at tight end. All three are two year lettermen and have shown aggresive football play, as well as good leadership qualities.

Wingfield is an aggressive blocker with good speed and good hands. Due to his small stature, for a tight end, the 160 pounder may also be used as a split end on occasion.

Coleman, an all-district performer last season is expected to anchor the offensive line and is considered one of the best linebackers in the district.

Quinn, at 185 pounds, will be one of the mainstays of the line. Robinson calls him "a hardnosed, aggressive football player who will do well for us."

At quarterback Robinson will probably go with junior signal call Mac Weaver to lead the newly installed wishbone offense. Weaver lettered last season, and at 170 pounds, possesses the size needed for a running quarterback. In addition, "Weaver has a good strong arm," Robinson says, "We think he can operate the wishbone for us with no problem."

Jerry Robinson

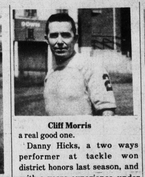
Sophomore Mitch Eggleston, another 170 pounder, will be the back-up quarterback. Eggleston has the potential to be one of the best athletes ever to come out of Appomattox County. The youngster lacks experience, but led last year's

George Blanton

junior varsity to an undefeated season and the JV crown for the Seminole District.

Ed Jamerson (195 pounds) will fill a defensive tackle slot. The senior has good lateral movement and reacts quickly to the ball. Robinson expects him to fill a lot of holes as the Raiders will employ a multiple defense.

Mike Ramsey, a 190 pound center could be the best center in the district. "Mike has all-district potential," says Robinson, "We expect him to be



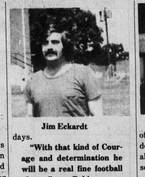
Cliff Morris

a real good one.

Danny Hicks, a two ways performer at tackle won district honors last season, and with a years experience under his belt, the junior is expected to improve.

One of the hardest workers, and hardest hitters on the Raiders' squad is senior David Baxter. The 155 pound guard is quick and pound-for-pound, probably the best hitter on the team.

Another player the coaching staff is high on is senior split end Dicky Kelso. Kelso suffered a neck injury two years ago and was paralized from the neck down for a few



Jim Eckardt

days.

"With that kind of Courage and determination he will be a real fine football player," says Robinson.

Gordon Ford, a 140 pound running back will probably get a starting position. He is fast and could give the Raiders the outside threat they need. Ford is fighting for a starting berth along with junior Ricky Simmons who also has good speed and starts quickly.

Offering depth at the tackle slot is Flip Jamerson. The 190 pound sophomore has great potential and could garner all-district honors this year.

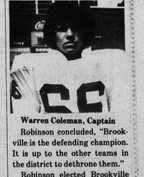
Tony Snell, with good hands

Cody Dickerson

offers back-up help at end as does Tommy Wingfield who is also a good blocker. Both are sophomores.

"We expect to be better this season," says Robinson. "We are working very hard for an improved season. The spirit is good and barring any serious injuries, we should finish better than we did last season."

Robinson continues, "We have good experience along the line but we lack experience in the backfield. Our depth is not quite as good as I would like, but if we don't get hurt, we could have a good ball team."



Warren Coleman, Captain

Robinson concluded, "Brookville is the defending champion. It is up to the other teams in the district to dethrone them."

Robinson elected Brookville to repeat as district champs, but declined t make any predictions beyond that. "I just wouldn't like to pick any farther than that," smiled Robinson. "There are a lot of things to consider, but we will be an improved football team."

Our pick for the Raiders is a third place finish behind Brookville and Amherst. But, don't be surprised if Appomattox is in the thick of the title race the last week of the season.

Central Virginia's First Area Football Preview

This special football edition, a first in Central Virginia, was compiled and edited by the staff of the Times-Virginian. We wish to express our gratitude to the coaches of the Seminole District football teams and to the coaches at E. C. Glass and Virginia Episcopal School for the splendid cooperation afforded us during the task of assembling the information contained herein.

We also extend our appreciation to our advertisers, without whom this edition would not have been possible. During the coming season the Times-Virginian will strive to keep abreast of all the football action including detailed reporting on the top games in the area, features on the athlete of the week and statistics on the leading scorers and the Seminole District standings.

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